REMARKS

Claims 1-39 are pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 19 have been rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) and claims 1, 8, 11, 18, and 19 have been rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph. Claims 34-39 have been allowed. Claims 2-7, 9, 10, 12-17, and 20-33 are objected to but otherwise allowable. Claims 1, 3-5, 8, 11, 14, 18, 19, and 21-23 have been amended. Claims 2 and 20 have been canceled without prejudice.

The Applicant appreciates the Examiner's thorough examination of the subject application and respectfully requests reconsideration of the subject application based on the above amendments and the following remarks.

35 U.S.C. § 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH REJECTIONS

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 8, 11, 18, and 19 under 35 USC §112, second paragraph for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that the Applicant considers his invention. The Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections in view of the above amendments.

Specifically, claims 1 and 19 have been amended to include the limitations of claims 2 and 20, respectively, which Applicant believes adequately addresses the Examiner's objections to the term "page unit", combination of the first and second print data, and the memory means and second print data.

Claims 8 and 11 also have been amended to describe what was meant by division of the storage area. Likewise, claim 18 has been amended to provide antecedent basis for re-transmission.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that, claims 1, 8, 11, 18, and 19 satisfy all of the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 100, et seq., especially § 112. Accordingly, claims

1, 8, 11, 18, and 19 are allowable. Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is requested.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) REJECTIONS

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 19 under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent Number 6,052,210 to Shibaki, et al. ("Shibaki" or the "Shibaki Reference") in view of U.S. Patent Number 5,964,851 to Ueda ("Ueda" or the "Ueda Reference"). The Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections in view of the amendments to claims 1 and 19 and for the reasons provided below. Claims 1 and 19 have been amended to include the recitations of claims 2 and 20, respectively, which the Examiner has indicated would be allowable.

The present invention discloses a printing system comprising a printing device and a host device. The host device transmits printing data to the printing device, which prints the print data. The printing device, further, includes memory for storing print data. When the storage capacity of the memory is exceeded, the memory device stops saving print data and the printing device combines and prints out first and second print data. "First print data" are those data that are stored in the memory, i.e., "stored print data". "Second print data" are those data that cannot be stored in memory because of insufficient memory capacity, which are re-transmitted directly from the host device to the printing device without being stored in memory. See, e.g., Specification, page 6, lines 6-23. Accordingly, the invention as claimed discloses combining and printing data in memory and data from a host machine.

For example, referring to Figure 4,

> the printing process of the first page to the last page N is carried out using [first] print data 14 saved in the memory device 6 (state 8 to state 10). That is, in the printing process of the first page to page (K-1), the stored data of the memory device 6 is directly subjected to the output process. Meanwhile, the printing process of page K to page N, as with state 5 to state 7, the host device 1 re-transmits the [second] print data of the page to the printing device

> 2, and printing process is carried out as the printing device 2
> receives the [second] print data again, and the memory device 6
> does not store the received [second print] data.

Id., page 21, line 16 to page 2, line 3 (Emphasis added).

In contrast, the Shibaki reference discloses that, if memory becomes full before all of the images are stored, then only portions of the images that are stored in the memory are printed out, to provide an empty space and store remaining images therein. When memory becomes full in double-side printing, an image to be printed on the sheet on which the next image is to be printed is not printed out, and the other images in the memory are printed out first. The suspended image is then stored and synthesized for a print job. More specifically,

> The original images are sequentially stored in the page memory block 302 (S402). Whether all the original images are stored is checked (S403). If the page memory block becomes full before all the images are stored (S405), only portions of the original images which can be printed (these original images are synthesized if necessary) are printed on sheets as image formation media and output by the printer 315 (S406). Only the printed original images are erased from the page memory block, and unprinted original images are left behind. After an empty area is formed in the page memory in this way, images of the remaining originals are picked up (S401). If the memory becomes full again, partial printing is similarly performed. If all the original images are stored in the memory before the memory becomes full, these original images are copied in a regular manner.

Shibaki, col. 8, lines 12-29. Thus, as the Examiner concedes, Shibaki does not disclose transmitting print data from a host device.
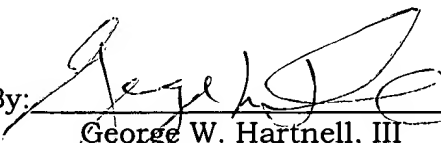
Although, according to the Examiner, the Ueda reference discloses "a printer that receives a created print data in a page unit from a host computer," the combination of these two references, though, does not teach, mention or suggest re-transmission requesting means and printing print data of second and subsequent copies by combining the first print data and the second print data, which are re-transmitted to the host device in response to a request from the re-transmission requesting means. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that, claims 1 and 19 are

not made obvious by the Shibaki reference; and further, satisfy all of the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 100, et seq., especially § 103(a). Accordingly, claims 1 and 19 are allowable. Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is requested.

If for any reason a fee paid is inadequate or credit is owed for any excess fee paid, you are hereby authorized and requested to charge or credit Deposit Account No. **04-1105**.

Respectfully submitted,

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